

League To Set Up Separate Constituent Assembly If Congress Intransigence Continues

—ABDUL QAIYUM KHAN
HYDERABAD (Deccan), Tuesday.

"If no understanding was reached over the question of the Muslim League's participation in the Constituent Assembly it was possible that the Muslim League would set up a Constituent Assembly and frame a separate Constitution for those areas," said Khan Abdul Qaiyum Khan, Leader of the Opposition in the N.-W.F.P. Assembly addressing a Press conference, yesterday adding that that was only his personal opinion and the League had not yet announced anything officially in this connection.

Mr. Qaiyum Khan said, it would be in the interests of the Congress itself to be more accommodating and compromise on this important issue.

Comparing the attitude of the Congress to the Muslim League had been more so in the past, compromising during the period of political negotiations by accepting a limited share for the sake of settlement instead of demanding an unmitigated complete sovereign Pakistan.

But the Congress, instead of accepting this gesture of goodwill and trying to work in harmony with the Muslims was insisting in putting its own interpretation on the Grouping Plan in the Cabinet Mission's Plan of May 16.

The Congress was arguing "Like a sinner with a bad case" even after the terms of the Plan had agreed to the League's interpretation of the Grouping Plan.

Discussing the position of the Muslim League in his own Province, Mr. Qaiyum Khan said that the League would accept the plan in any elections might be held in the Frontier Province as a great majority of Muslims in that Province being against the Congress. The recent Bihar riots had further opened the eyes of the Muslims in the Frontier.

The present Congress Ministry in the Frontier had to depend on the 12 minority (Hindu and Sikhs) votes in the Assembly for its existence and this prevented them from adopting a constructive programme.

Referring to Indian States, Khan said Qaiyum Khan said that the day of the Muslim League was one of strict non-interference.—A.P.I.

Khan Abdul Qaiyum further stated, the object in visiting Hyderabad is to lay the conditions of the Muslim League in the State.

WAKENING
"I am glad a great awakening has taken place among the Muslims of the State but I am sorry to say that Hyderabad lost a great son in the death of Bahadur Yar Jung who was responsible for this awakening."

Referring to the communal relations in the State, he said: "Communal relations were cordial today due to the fact in the country communal harmony in the State is also affected. Full conditions are far better there than those in British India."

On the question of Pakistan he said, always used to be a Hindu friend and they are the only people who are using the Muslims towards Pakistan. Then asked about the plebiscite in the State and he said, the Muslim League had the idea.—O.P.I. & A.M.

Gandhi's Advice to Assam Contrary to Mission's Plan

MADRAS, Monday.

The possibility of the Muslim League forming a separate Constituent Assembly to frame their own constitution, if the Congress persisted in its present attitude, was envisaged by prominent Muslim League Legislators in a talk with the Madras correspondents of the Orient Press.

The League spokesman deplored the move of Mr. Gandhi to Assam and said that if every Province were to follow its own way than they would be following the Cabinet Mission's

French Should Quit Indo-China

— U. SAW

CALCUTTA, Monday.

THE whole of Asia has been struggling for freedom. Today one can hear an appeal being made from every nook and corner of Asia to help them in their struggle for freedom. The latest appeal is from the Indo-Chinese leader Mai Te Chau, observed Mr. U. Saw, former Premier of Burma and the leader of the Myochit Party.

In an interview with Globe, Mr. U. Saw said: "It is the bounden duty of all Asiatic nations to respond spontaneously to Indo-China's appeal."

"Indo-China is also very important from the strategic point of view. If the Dutch and English are, as they declare, going to free Asia from their yoke, there is no reason why France should not quit Indo-China."

"If France does not succeed in persuading herself to give up the greedy idea of enforcing her imperialistic rule in Indo-China, the only thing I can say is that she awaits a disaster."

"The way the French Government, especially the Socialist Government of France, is carrying on with her programme of reconquest of Indo-China shows that the people of Asia should equally hate foreign rule whether Socialist, Communist, Democratic or under any guise."—Globe.

LONDON DOES NOT KNOW ABOUT ANGLO-US ALLIANCE

LONDON, Tuesday.—A Foreign Office spokesman said yesterday that "there is no knowledge in London" of a projected Anglo-American alliance providing for military and economic co-operation in the event of either of the countries being attacked by a third power.

The Foreign Office declined further comment on a report published by the Paris newspaper *La Aurore* that an alliance has been perfected and will be signed in Washington on March 15.

The Foreign Office spokesman said that the most recent authentic utterance on the subject was by Prime Minister Attlee who said in Parliament on December 11 that his Government "has made it clear that it welcomed an alliance for the preservation of peace with all countries".—A.P.A.

VATICAN TO BROADCAST NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL

LONDON, Monday.—At five minutes before midnight tomorrow, Vatican Radio will broadcast Special New Year's "Te Deum" by Lorenzo Ferrosi, Vatican Radio said today.

The "Te Deum" will be followed by New Year's greetings from the Vatican.—Reuter.

Plan but something else. He strongly refuted Pandit Nehru's contention that the Constituent Assembly was a sovereign body as the sanction for the Constituent Assembly itself is of the British Government and as such it could not be Sovereign.—O.P.I.

'Reds Constitute Greater Challenge To U.S. Than Nazis'

NEW YORK, Monday.

COMMUNIST parties in Central and South America, loyal to Moscow, have made greater progress and constitute a greater challenge to the United States than ever was the case of the Nazi or Fascist parties loyal to Berlin, Rome, or Madrid, declares Mr. W. H. Lawrence, a special correspondent, writing in the "New York Times" after his six-month tour of Latin American countries.

Mr. Lawrence says that the Communists are already far stronger on a hemisphere-wide basis than they have ever been in the United States. "By a conservative estimate, they would poll 1,000,000 votes if the 20 Latin American Republics were to have free elections in which 20,000,000 people might participate."

In contrast, the highest vote ever given to a Communist candidate for Presidency of the United States was 102,000 out of about 40,000,000.

Mr. Lawrence adds that the Latin American Communists keep up their continuous propaganda against the Western Democracies foreign policy and in support of the Soviet Union's policy and actions. At the moment they do not seem ready to assume power anywhere.—Globe.

POSTPONEMENT OF POLISH ELECTIONS DENIED

WARSAW, Tuesday.—A Polish Government spokesman yesterday categorically denied reports said to have been circulated by a foreign radio station that elections in Poland might be postponed.

The elections were certain to take place on January 19 as planned, the spokesman said.—Reuter.

EX-KING LEOPOLD IN GENEVA

ZURICH, Monday.—The reports that Ex-King Leopold of the Belgians had "secretly" left Switzerland (not carried by Reuter) were authoritatively denied here today.

After spending Christmas in Basle the former King returned to Geneva.—Reuter.

National Party Rejects Java Draft Agreement

BATAVIA, Tuesday.

AFTER two days of sharp debate the National Party which has two of the 18 seats in the Indonesian Cabinet has rejected the draft agreement reached between the Dutch and the Indonesian delegates last month for a federal "United States of Indonesia."

The speakers said that the agreement did not sufficiently guarantee, politically and economically, continuation of the Republic. The party urged that it be amended and that relationship with the Netherlands should be "in the nature of an alliance concluded between two Sovereign Powers"—Reuter.

Dutch Army's Tank Operations In Java

BATAVIA, Tuesday.

THE Dutch Army used tanks in a clearing action on the Semarang front after infiltrating Indonesian extremists entrenched themselves within the Dutch zone on Saturday, according to Monday's Netherlands Army communiqué.

A rush of small scale clashes between Dutch and Indonesians continued on other fronts.

Two Dutchmen were killed and five wounded at Palembang, Sumatra. Three shooting incidents were reported from Padang, Sumatra, four from Badang, Java and two from Celebes.—A.P.A.

COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE INTERFERENCE IN GREECE

ATHENS, Tuesday.—M. Tsaldar, the Greek Prime Minister, return to Athens yesterday from New York where he presented to the United Nations' Security Council Greece's allegations of interference by her northern neighbours in guerrilla activities. The Security Council decided that an International Commission should be appointed to investigate the situation on the spot.

This Commission will consist of representatives drawn from eleven member states of the Council who will be appointed after January 1.—Reuter.

'STATE OF SIEGE' MAINTAINED IN MARSEILLES: INDO-CHINESE STAGE DEMONSTRATIONS

MARSEILLES, Tuesday.

THE flag under which the Indo-Chinese nationalists are fighting against the French forces—a yellow star on a red field—flies over at least eight camps of Indo-Chinese workers in France today.

Of about 14,000 of them brought to France in 1939 to 1940, some 12,000 are still awaiting repatriation in camps, the largest of which is at Mazargues east of Marseilles with others at Toulouse, Lyons, Bordeaux, Bergerac and Montpellier.

A reasonable attitude on both the sides has prevented any ugly incidents so far but at Christmas the supporters of Viet-Nam—a semi-autonomous Indo-Chinese State where the local nationalists have been fighting the French for nearly three weeks—decided to stage demonstrations parading with banners.

The Marseilles police, according to Viet-Nam sources, got wind of the proposed demonstration and before dawn on Christmas day threw a cordon of armed police and troops around two camps near Marseilles to prevent anyone leaving.

This "task force" was stated to have been equipped with machineguns, black maras and ambulances and a "state of siege" was maintained for two days.

Police inspectors searched hutmen's in which the Indo-Chinese are housed for arms and literature. They found nothing but the Viet-Nam supporters said today that they hid their banners with slogans when the police arrived.

In other towns demonstrations are reported to have been carried out as planned without an incident.

On Christmas day the French police detained Dang Chan Lieu, described as a member of the Viet-Nam delegation in Paris who was trying to visit the camps at Marseilles.

He was at first refused permission to enter the main camp but speak briefly with friends.

He was then driven to a railway station and told to leave on the next train for Paris but before he could do so, the Viet-Nam sources said, he was

taken to a police station, searched, questioned and detained for several hours.

He remained in Marseilles till he returned to Paris after spending the afternoon at an Indo-Chinese workers camp.—

COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE

Some Indo-Chinese workers here, adherents of Viet-Nam said "we want complete independence and we are ready to die for it. There is nothing much we can do here so we will co-operate with the French authorities. But we think our repatriation has been held up because, for weeks past, ships have been taking French troops to the Far East."

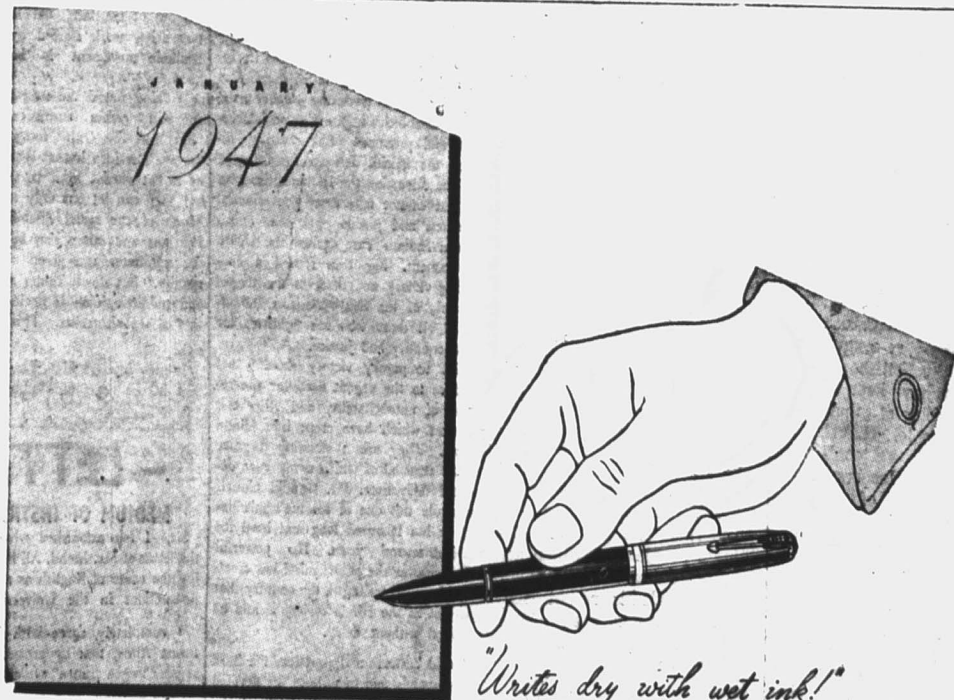
The workers said that they had complete freedom in their camps to organise any political activities or to make any statements they wished. They alleged that although France was desperately short of manpower they had been kept idle against their will for about one year because the French authorities were afraid that they would demonstrate in favour of their opinions.

"We have refused work offered to us in armaments factories because we knew that munitions produced there would be used against our own country of Viet-Nam."—Reuter.

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